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In the Claims:

- 1-42. (cancelled)
- 43. (presently amended). An array of nucleic acids comprising a plurality of distinct optically resolvable polynucleotide molecules immobilized on a solid surface, wherein each said polynucleotide molecule comprises a polynucleotide duplex covalently linked to form a hairpin loop structure, wherein one end of said polynucleotide duplex which comprises a target polynucleotide, and adjacent polynucleotide molecules immobilized on the array are separated by a distance of at least 100nm each polynucleotide duplex is an individually resolvable molecule detectable as a single molecule fluorescent point, wherein fluorescence from said single molecule fluorescent point exhibits single step photobleaching.
- 44. (previously presented) An array according to claim 43, wherein immobilization to the solid surface is via covalent attachment.
- 45. (cancelled)
- 46. (cancelled)
- 47. (presently cancelled) An array according to claim 43, wherein said molecules are separated by a distance of at least 250nm.
- 48. (previously presented) An array according to claim 43, wherein said surface density is 10^6 molecules per cm².
- 49. (previously presented) An array according to claim 48, wherein said density is 10^7 to 10^8 molecules per cm².

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- 50. (presently amended) An array according to claim 43, wherein at least one polynucleotide molecule immobilized on the solid surface is hybridized to has a second polynucleotide hybridized thereto.
- 51. (previously amended) An array according to claim 43, wherein at least one polynucleotide molecule immobilized on the solid surface is <u>a</u> of known sequence.
- 52. (previously presented) An array according to claim 43, wherein said surface density is 10^9 molecules per cm².
- 53. (previously presented) An array according to claim 43, wherein the molecules are individually resolvable by optical microscopy.
- 54. (previously presented) An array according to claim 43, wherein the polynucleotide duplex is covalently linked by a polyethylene glycol (PEG) molecule to form a hairpin loop structure.
- 55. (newly presented) An array according to claim 43, wherein said plurality of distinct optically resolvable polynucleotide molecules immobilized on a solid surface comprises genomic DNA fragments.